Weekly Column for April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Despite less than ideal conditions, I had the wonderful honor of kicking off the 78<sup>th</sup> Consecutive Season of golf at Frear Park Golf Course. With the rain pouring down on the foursomes ready to kick off the season in style, I took one club out of car and headed down the first tee. By the end of my swing, I was more than pleased that the ball went straight. After that, it was back to work.

It is always a sure sign of spring, and how long winter has taken to disappear, when the golf course gets going. This year was just about average. Not as late (April 21<sup>st</sup>) as last season, and not nearly as early (March 31<sup>st</sup>) as 2006. But we are off and running.

For those that don't know, Frear Park is the municipal golf course in the City of Troy located off of Oakwood Avenue. It is expected to host more than 40,000 rounds of golf this season. Each year the course grows a bit, whether it is through maintenance, expansion, or amenities. Last year, the Park Pub Restaurant opened and solidified the food available at the course, and received great reviews from a number of people.

Many of the rounds will be generated at Frear Park are by the twenty-seven golf leagues that will begin play on Monday April 21<sup>st</sup>. The twenty-seven leagues at Frear Park include: eighteen men's leagues, five women's leagues and four senior leagues.

In addition, a full schedule of over eighty tournaments and outings are scheduled at the Troy course this year including: the Annual Rensselaer County Amateur Tournament, the Eastern New York State Golf Association Tournament, and the Mayor's Cup Tournament.

Sales of season passes and resident discount identification cards are now underway in the Frear Park Clubhouse and will continue daily at the course Monday through Saturday from 10a.m. to 3p.m. Weekend reserve tees times will begin on the weekend of April 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>. Weekend reserve tees times are available be calling the weekend reserve tee time line on Thursday mornings from 10a.m. to 11a.m. at 235-8993.

For information on rates and playing conditions please call the golf course at 270-4553.

I do not think there will be many rounds of golf this weekend, but after that it looks to be a bit better.

Have a great weekend!

Harry J Tutunjian Mayor of Troy